

*ELLIS et al.*  
*Application No. 09/674,173*  
*July 19, 2004*

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:**

Please delete the abstract in its entirety and substitute in its place the new abstract attached hereto on a separate sheet.

ABSTRACT

A telecommunications service session control system for supporting multiple multi-party service sessions, including at least one server connected to a transport network. The system is configured during a service session to provide session control unit including a unit for interfacing with service specific client software objects and a unit for interfacing with service specific server software objects. The server object interfacing unit includes an interface with a service specific object at least partly controlling the session and at least one interface with a different service specific object at least partly controlling a participation in the session. The service specific objects may be derived from such that the service developer is relieved of the need to know details of the system on which the service code will run. Common service surround functions, such as authentication, billing and management functions, need not be considered during the service development phase.